

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S1096**

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TO:	The Honorable Glenn McConnell, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	Allan Kincaid and Rodney Grizzle		
DATE:	February 16, 2006	SBD:	2006067

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AUTHOR:	Senator Ford	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	Joint Resolution
SUBJECT:	Constitutional Amendment - Additional Supreme Court Justices		

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ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:  
See Below

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:  
\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

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**BILL SUMMARY:**

The Joint Resolution amends Section 2, Article V of the Constitution of South Carolina, 1895, relating to the composition of the Supreme Court, so as to increase from five to seven the number of justices comprising the Supreme Court on January 1, 2009. The proposed amendment must be submitted to the qualified electors at the next general election for representatives.

**EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:**

State Election Commission

The Commission indicates there will be no fiscal impact on the General Fund of the State or on Federal and/or other funds. While there is a cost associated with printing a ballot, the funding for statewide general elections is sufficient to cover this cost.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:**

None.

**SPECIAL NOTES:**

The Judicial Department indicates that when the additional judges are added in 2009 there will be an impact on the General Fund of the State of \$743,230 annually. This includes salaries, fringe benefits and other operating expenses for two additional Justices, two administrative assistants and four law clerks. There would also be non-recurring costs of \$100,360 the first year for computer automation and office furniture.

Approved by:



Don Addy  
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget